

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please cancel claims 98 and 102, amend claims 95 and 101, and add new claims 119-123.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-94 (Cancelled)

95. (Currently Amended) A polypeptide comprising a pleiotrophin-binding fragment ~~portion but not all of the extracellular domain~~ of anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) as encoded by SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said fragment consists of ~~portion comprises~~ amino acid residues ~~positions~~ 368 to 447 of SEQ ID NO:2, and wherein said polypeptide binds human pleiotrophin (PTN).

96. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 95, wherein said polypeptide is soluble.

97-98. (Cancelled)

99. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 95 bound to PTN.

100. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 95 immobilized on a surface.

101. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 95, ~~97 or 98~~ further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

102. (Cancelled)

103. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 101, wherein said polypeptide is present in said composition in a therapeutically effective amount.

104. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 101, further comprising PTN.
105. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 101, further comprising PTN and a test substance that blocks the binding of PTN with ALK.
106. (Withdrawn) A method of screening the ability of a test substance to block binding of PTN with ALK, comprising comparing a measurement of the binding of PTN with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 obtained in the presence of the substance, with a control measurement to obtain a value.
107. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 106, wherein said control measurement is the measurement of binding of PTN with said polypeptide obtained in the absence of said substance.
108. (Withdrawn) A method of screening the ability of a test substance to block binding of PTN with ALK, comprising:
obtaining a first measurement of the binding of PTN with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98; obtaining a second measurement of the binding of PTN with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98, wherein said first measurement is performed in the absence of the substance and said second measurement is performed in the presence of said substance; and comparing said first measurement to said second measurement to obtain a value.
109. (Withdrawn) A method of screening the ability of a test substance to block binding of PTN with ALK, comprising:
incubating the substance with PTN and the polypeptide of claim 5, 97 or 98 under conditions suitable for binding of PTN to said polypeptide; obtaining a measurement of the binding; and comparing the measurement of said binding with a control measurement, to obtain a value.

110. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 109, wherein the control measurement is the measurement of binding of PTN with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 obtained in the absence of said substance.
111. (Withdrawn) A method for inhibiting binding of PTN with ALK, comprising contacting PTN with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 in the presence of ALK and under conditions suitable for binding of PTN with said polypeptide.
112. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 111, wherein ALK is expressed by a cell.
113. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 112, wherein said cell is a tumor cell.
114. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 111 wherein said ALK is immobilized to a surface.
115. (Withdrawn) A method for blocking ALK activity, comprising contacting a cell expressing ALK with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 in the presence of PTN and under conditions suitable to inhibit binding of PTN with said ALK, thereby blocking ALK activity.
116. (Withdrawn) A method for blocking ALK activity, comprising contacting ALK with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 in the presence of PTN and under conditions suitable to inhibit binding of PTN with said ALK, thereby blocking ALK activity.
117. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 115, wherein said cell is a tumor cell.
118. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 116, wherein said ALK is immobilized on a surface.
119. (New) The peptide of claim 95, further comprising an Fc domain.

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120. (New) A composition comprising the peptide of claim 119, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

121. (New) The composition of claim 120, wherein said peptide is present in said composition in a therapeutically effective amount.

122. (New) The composition of claim 120, further comprising PTN.

123. (New) The composition of claim 120, further comprising PTN and a test substance that blocks the binding of PTN with ALK.